



UCC Centre for Planning
Education & Research

National Landscape Forum 2016

Thursday 9th & Friday 10th June 2016

Venue: University College Cork

MAKING GOOD DECISIONS ABOUT LANDSCAPE

'Real World Challenges and Opportunities'

This year's forum hosted by the **UCC Centre for Planning Education & Research** will explore how we as a society can in the best interests of the *common good* improve decision-making with regard to our *shared landscape*. It aims to find effective ways of converting the aspirations of the **National Landscape Strategy** into action where it matters: in the living place and space where natural processes and human activities interact to shape our place, our environment - our landscape.

Landscape embraces all sectors of society. Yet, on a day-to-day basis, important decisions about the character of our settlements, countryside, uplands, coasts and water bodies are being made through statutory processes that are poorly understood. Even though these decisions (such as zoning, planning permissions, licensing, designations, spatial policy, infrastructural priorities, construction or conservation) are made in the name of the *common good*, the political, legal or economic forces of the day invariably take precedence, while the voice for people and place struggles to be heard.

The forum will look at how planning processes and practice (including legislation, regulations, guidelines, development plans, local area plans, planning appeals etc.) can be more effective from a landscape point of view. With Cork City and County providing a local and practical context, the forum will explore best practice requirements for community engagement, cross-disciplinary working, training and education needs, and the importance of a validated knowledge and evidence base to support more aware and assertive decision-making about our landscape.

Programme

Thursday: Focussed workshops and local study trips – urban & peri-urban landscapes.

Friday: plenary session: keynote presentations, workshop reports, discussion and open forum.

The forum platform is open to all points of view with the aim of identifying priorities & practical ways forward; presentations should be concise and to the point. All are invited to attend and participate. Advance booking recommended especially for workshops. **Fee: € 50 + concessions**

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